

COVID-19 Striving Readers Comprehensive Literacy (SRCL) FAQ

April, 2020



Will the deadline to spend SRCL funds be extended?

Current recipients of the SRCL grant have until September 30, 2020 to spend grant funds. The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) is applying for a grant extension. If an extension is granted for SRCL recipients, the KDE will notify districts of the change.

Will the number of required professional learning (PL) hours change?

No, the number of required PL hours for SRCL teachers will not change. All cohort 1 and cohort 2 SRCL teachers should earn 40 PL hours focused on reading and writing. The original deadline for earning the hours was June 30, 2020. Districts should continue the planned professional learning virtually if possible. For questions or if an extension is needed, please contact Danna Steele, SRCL Project Director, via email at danna.steele@education.ky.gov or phone at 502-564-2106 Ext. 4746.

Will my PL provider still train my teachers?

Yes, the provider will still provide planned training. The professional learning providers are aware of the new situation and challenges. Please contact the provider to adjust plans and to continue professional learning virtually.

Can teachers earn SRCL professional learning hours during NTI school days?

Yes, based on KRS 158.070(3)(c), teachers may participate in PL while offering NTI services if PL is done at a time that is differentiated from and not concurrent with the time of NTI instruction. The professional learning must also be approved in the same manner as normal professional development by the local school or district. Participants should not earn a stipend for professional learning completed during a NTI day.

Virtual professional learning opportunities may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Virtual PLC meetings focused on comprehensive literacy
- Virtual professional learning aligned to the literacy plan
- Virtual planning with a team for implementation of literacy strategies
- Virtual planning with a team for implementation of the *Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS) for Reading and Writing*

If teachers find professional learning opportunities online, can they participate in them to earn SRCL PL hours?

SRCL professional learning must be aligned to the school's literacy plan and must focus on comprehensive literacy. Teachers should request approval from district SRCL leads for any training not provided by the SRCL professional learning providers. District SRCL leads should contact Danna Steele, SRCL Project Director, via email at danna.steele@education.ky.gov or phone at 502-564-2106 Ext. 4746, to get approval for training outside of the PL provider list.

Is SRCL over after September 30, 2020?

No, September 30, 2020 is the current date when grant money needs to be spent. It is not the end date for SRCL. Each SRCL district agreed to three years of SRCL implementation. The 2020/2021 school year is the third year of implementation. Cohort 3, the last 25% of teachers, should earn 25 hours of PL focused on comprehensive literacy by June 30, 2021. In year 3, cohort 1 and cohort 2 should earn an additional

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25 hours of PL focused on comprehensive literacy by June 30, 2021. Districts should continue plans to sustain the literacy work beyond the grant.

My district decided to have all our teachers earn professional learning hours during years 1 and 2. Do we still have to provide PL next year?

Yes, all teachers in each feeder school should earn 25 hours of PL focused on comprehensive literacy during the 2020/2021 school year. The deadline for earning the 25 hours is June 30, 2021.

Are all teachers required to have PL on how to teach reading and writing even if they don't teach ELA?

Yes, all teachers are required to participate in professional learning focused on comprehensive literacy. However, the training should be tailored to the different content areas. Professional learning should focus on how to read and write in the content areas. For example, science teachers should learn how to support students as they read and gather information in the sciences. They should focus on content-specific vocabulary strategies and how students make sense of grade level science texts. They should also focus on how to support students as they communicate their understanding of science. District SRCL leads should talk to the professional learning provider(s) about how they can support the specific content areas. Having all teachers participate in the same professional learning may not meet their needs.

Do I still need to update my Official Submissions Document?

Yes, the Official Submission Document should be updated. Teachers' professional learning logs, updates to the literacy plan and/or the budget, Project Specific Goals Document and the Year 2 Annual Progress Report (APR) should be added.

Will we need to do an Annual Progress Report (APR) this year?

Yes, the APR is due June 30, 2020. Requirements are the same as the one submitted last summer. Details regarding the APR will be sent by April 30, 2020.

Will Johns Hopkins University conduct SRCL evaluation this year?

Yes, Johns Hopkins University (JHU) collects both assessment data and implementation data. They will not be gathering KPREP data since the spring 2020 test is waived. However, they will still conduct phone surveys and digital surveys this spring. Each district SRCL lead will be asked to send JHU a list of names, phone numbers and email addresses for at least 2 people from each level. JHU will select people from the names submitted to participate in a phone survey. You will receive an email from JHU about the phone survey. A digital survey will be sent at the beginning of May. Everyone involved with SRCL will be asked to fill out the digital survey.

Will the Collaborative for Teaching and Learning (CTL) conduct monitoring visits next year?

No, CTL only led monitoring visits for year 1 and year 2.

When will CTL send the monitoring visit reports?

CTL will send the district monitoring reports in April and May.

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Will current SRCL districts be allowed to apply for the Kentucky Comprehensive Literacy (KYCL) Grant?

Yes, current SRCL districts can apply for KYCL in Round 2. We anticipate the Request for Application (RFA) for KYCL Round 2 will be available December 2020.

When will money be available to districts who are awarded the KYCL grant in Round 2?

We anticipate funding disbursements for KYCL recipients in Round 2 will be available July 2021.